

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1-4 and 7-9 to read as follows:

Please add new claim 12-14 to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A case for rack mounted equipment comprising:
an outer profile;
a body tube having two ends a first end and an interior configured to house at least one piece of rack mounted equipment, the first end having a recessed portion recessed relative to the outer profile of the case; a connector panel secured to the body tube at a first end, and
a removable lid configured to be removably attached to a portion of at least the first end spaced from the recessed portion, the removable lid being configured to when removed provide for access to the at least one piece of rack mounted equipment housed within the interior of the body tube, wherein a surface of the connector panel is recessed relative to an outer profile of the case; and
a connector panel secured to the recessed portion of the first end of the body tube, the connector panel being configured to provide an electrical connection between the at least one piece of rack mounted equipment housed within the interior of the body tube and at least one electrical component that is external to the case when the removable lid is attached to the portion of the first end spaced from the recessed portion.

2. (Currently Amended) A case for rack mounted equipment as claimed in claim 1, wherein a portion of the removable lid has a height less than that of the tallest height of the case, and the connector panel has an outside surface that is recessed relative to the portion of the removable lid having a height less than that of the tallest height of the case.

3. (Currently Amended) A case for rack mounted equipment as claimed in claim 2, wherein the connector panel surface is positioned above or below

the portion of the removable lid having a height less than that of the tallest height of the case.

4. (Currently Amended) A case for rack mounted equipment as claimed in claim 2 or 3, wherein the body tube has a second end, the case further comprising having a removable lid on the other second end of the body tube that, the removable lid on the other end extending a full height of the tallest height of the case.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A case for rack mounted equipment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connector panel is recessed inwardly relative to an outer profile of the case and closes the recessed portion of the first end.

8. (Currently Amended) A case for rack mounted equipment having a removable lid configured to be secured on an end, and a connector panel on the same end that is recessed relative to the removable lid when the removable lid is secured on the end, the connector panel being configured to provide an electrical connection between a piece of rack mounted equipment inside the case and an electrical component located outside the case when the removable lid is secured on the end.

9. (Currently Amended) A case for rack mounted equipment as claimed in claim 8, wherein the connector panel surface is permanently secured to the case.

10. (Previously Presented) A case for rack mounted equipment as claimed in claim 1, including a plurality of feet located on a bottom surface of the case, and a plurality of feet locators positioned on a top surface of the case, each foot being shaped to nest within a respective foot locator of a like case, the feet and feet locators being arranged in a substantially identical pattern to facilitate stable stacking of one equipment case on another.

11. (Previously Presented) The case for rack mounted equipment as claimed in claim 1, including a plurality of latches for removably connecting the removable lid to the case.

12. (New) A case for rack mounted equipment comprising:
an interior;
an exterior;
a connector panel configured to provide an electrical connection between the interior of the case and the exterior of the case;
a first end having
an open first portion configured to provide access into the interior of the case from the exterior of the case, and
a second portion located alongside the first portion and closed by the connector panel; and
a removable lid configured to be removably secured to the open portion of the first end.

13. (New) The case of claim 12, wherein the second portion of the first end is recessed relative to the open first portion.

14. (New) A case for rack mounted equipment comprising:
an interior;
an exterior;
a body tube having a first open end and a second end having an end face and an attachment portion having an opening, the attachment portion being spaced inwardly along the body tube from the end face;
a connector panel secured to the attachment portion of the second end and closing the opening of the attachment portion, the connector panel being configured to provide an electrical connection between the interior of the case and the exterior of the case; and
a removable lid configured to be removably secured to the first open end and close the first open end when secured thereto.